(b) As per the report received from the State Government of Gujarat, the number of lions killed during the last one year (month wise), till July 31st, 2007 is as below:

SI. No.	Month	Lions killed
1	August - 06	1
2	January - 07	1
3	March - 07	6
4	April - 07	2

(c) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Chanting of Vedic Mantras in American Senate

†1276. SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether American Senate commenced the proceedings with chanting of Vedic Mantras;

(b) whether it was met with any opposition;

(c) the information provided by Embassy thereon alongwith the reasons given for the opposition; and

(d) in what way the concepts contained in these mantras relates to world peace?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Government of India have seen reports that on July 12, 2007, the session of the US Senate was opened with the chanting of Vedic mantras. This was at the Initiative of the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid, who represents Nevada in the Senate. This event produced a reaction from three protestors in the public galleries, who were evicted by security personnel.

(d) Concepts contained in these mantras promote universal peace.

Nuclear agreement between Russia and Myanmar

†1277. SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Myanmar has signed a nuclear agreement with Russia;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether India has not signed any agreement with Russia inspite of Russia being our old friend;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government are worried by reactions of the neighbouring countries regarding the news of a pact signed with America?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Yes. Russia and Myanmar signed an intergovernmental agreement in Moscow on May 15, 2007 for cooperation in the establishment of a Centre for Nuclear Studies in Myanmar.

(b) India has signed agreements with the Russian Federation relating to cooperation in nuclear energy.

(d) Government have noted statements by neighbouring countries on the India-US Agreement for Cooperation concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

Talks on Sir Creek issue

1278. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives of India and Pakistan met on May 17 and 18 for talks on the Sir Creek issue and exchanged maps of joint survey conducted in March, 2007;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held;

(c) whether again Home Secretaries of both the countries also met in July, 2007 to finalize the issues; and

(d) to what extent agreements have been signed and reached in regard to all the disputes between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes. The two sides discussed the delimitation of the maritime boundary as well as the delineation of the boundary in the Sir Creek. They exchanged maps/ charts showing their respective positions on the delineation of the boundary in the Sir Creek and delimitation of the maritime boundary. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the successful completion of the joint survey of Sir Creek and adjoining areas and agreed to continue discussions for an amicable settlement of the issue.

(c) and (d) Home Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan were held within the framework of the Composite Dialogue on 3-4 July, 2007 in New Delhi. In this meeting both sides strongly condemned all acts of terrorism and underlined the imperative need for effective and sustained measures against terrorist activities.